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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/715,766	11/18/2003	Iwan Wolf	DT-6666	5255

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EXAMINER

LOPEZ, MICHELLE

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3721

DATE MAILED: 01/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/715,766

Applicant(s)

WOLF ET AL.

Examiner

Michelle Lopez

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 September 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the amendment filed on September 16, 2004.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-3 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bolte (US 3,584,776) in view of Gschwend et al. (5,181,495).

Bolte'776 discloses a setting tool with a chamber 18; a piston guide 4; a drive piston 5; a magnetic piston-retaining means as a permanent magnet 16 for temporarily retaining the drive piston 5; and a magnetic flux-conducting element 13 for transmitting a magnetic holding force from the magnetic piston-retaining means 16 to the drive piston 5.

With regards to claim 2, as Bolte discloses several magnets 16 positioned apart, it is deemed that each magnet 16 comprise a separate magnetic conducting element being associated with each magnet (see col. 1, lines 63-68).

Regarding claim 6, Bolte discloses that the magnetic flux-conducting element 13 is formed of a magnetic flux-conducting iron alloy, i.e. steel, as it is well known in the art that steel is a ferromagnetic material malleable alloy of iron (see col. 2, lines 20-23).

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With regards to claim 1, Bolte discloses the invention substantially as claimed except for a combustion chamber for combusting a fuel-oxidation means mixture.

However, Gschwend et al teaches a combustion chamber 9 for combusting a fuel-oxidation means mixture for the purpose of driving a fastening element via an air fuel mixture being ignited (see Abstract). In view of Gschwend et al., it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have provided Bolte's invention with a combustion chamber 9 for combusting a fuel-oxidation means mixture in order to drive a fastening element via an air fuel mixture being ignited.

2. Claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bolte and Gschwend et al., and further in view of Averbukh (US 5,497,555).

Bolte as modified by Gschwend et al. discloses the invention substantially as claimed except that the magnetic piston-retaining means 16 comprises one electromagnet.

However, Averbukh teaches a magnetic piston-retaining means 132, i.e. an electromagnet, for the purpose of controlling the amount of current transmitted via the piston-retaining means 132 to the conducting element 130, thereby adapting the retaining force of the magnetic piston-retaining means 132 to the required operational conditions. In view of Averbukh, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art to have provided Bolte's invention as modified by Gschwend et al., and further having a magnetic piston-retaining means, i.e. an electromagnet, in order to control the amount of current transmitted via the piston-retaining means to the conducting element, thereby adapting the retaining force of the magnetic piston-retaining means to the required operational conditions.

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Regarding claim 5, Bolte as modified by Gschwend et al. does not disclose that the magnetic flux-conducting element is formed as a pole piece. However, Averbukh teaches a magnetic flux-conducting element 130 formed as a pole piece (see Fig. 3) for the purpose of controlling the magnetic force applied via the electromagnet 132 to the pole piece 130. In view of Averbukh, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art to have provided Bolte's invention as modified by Gschwend et al. and further having a magnetic flux-conducting element formed as a pole piece in order to control the magnetic force applied via the electromagnet to the pole piece.

3. Claims 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bolte and Gschwend et al., and further in view of Bade (US 3,320,860).

Bolte as modified by Gschwend et al. discloses the invention substantially as claimed except for a spacer formed as a shock-absorbing provided between the magnetic piston-retaining means and the drive piston.

However, Bade teaches a spacer 22a formed as a shock-absorbing element provided between the magnetic piston-retaining means 14 and the drive piston 32 (see Fig. 2) for the purpose of providing a cushioning member that reduces the impacting damage of the drive piston 32 over the magnetic piston-retaining means 14. In view of Bade, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art to have provided Bolte's invention as modified by Gschwend et al., and further having a spacer formed as a shock-absorbing provided between the magnetic piston-retaining means and the drive piston in order to cushioning the impact imparted

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by the drive piston over the magnetic piston-retaining means, thereby preventing wear and/or damage of the magnetic piston-retaining means.

Response to Arguments


4. Applicant's arguments, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Bolte have been fully considered and are persuasive. Upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Gschwend et al.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michelle Lopez whose telephone number is 571-272-4464. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi Rada can be reached on 571-272-4467. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


JOHN SIPOS
PRIMARY EXAMINER